11-24-03



14998.255

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Akito Nishimura, Toru Arikawa, Yasuhiro Tamaki

Serial No:

09/720,235

Filed:

December 20, 2000

For:

OPTICAL FERRULE AND MOLDING METHOD THEREFOR, AND

OPTICAL CONNECTOR USING THIS OPTICAL FERRULE

Art Unit:

2839

Examiner:

Javaid H. Nasri

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

November 18, 2003

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

The following Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action dated May 19, 2003, a three (3) month statutory response period for which was set for August 19, 2003. Filed concurrently herewith is a Petition for an Extension of Time, extending the period for response to this Office Action until November 19, 2003 and a corresponding extension fee. Accordingly, this Amendment and Response is timely filed.